

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALGIER 01281 301615Z

42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SCCT-01 /098 W

----- 122991

P 291530Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2516

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1281

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MD, SS, SP, AG

SUBJ: ALGERIANS TOUGHEN UP ON SPANISH SAHARA

REF: RABAT 2536

1. UN MISSION: BOUMEDIENE RECEIVED UN SPANISH SAHARA MISSION MAY 28. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORT HE STRESSED THAT ALGERIA'S TRADITIONAL AND FERVENTLY ESPOUSED ANTICOLONIALIST POLICY PARTICULARLY APPLIES TO TERRITORIES ON ITS BORDERS.

2. ON MAY 29 UN MISSION WENT TO TINDOUF WHERE IT SCHEDULED TO VISIT THREE REFUGEE CAMPS. ALGERIAN PRESS NOTED CAMPS DRAPED IN BANNERS PROCLAIMING UNSHAKEABLE COMMITMENT OF SAHARAN PEOPLE TO CONTINUATION OF BATTLE UNTIL FULL REALIZATION OF ASPIRATIONS. (NOTE: SPANISH RADIO REPORTS ALGERIANS REFUSED MISSION PERMISSION TO VISIT BORDER; NO REASON GIVEN AND WE NOT YET ABLE TO CONFIRM REPORT.)

3. BOUMEDIENE COMMENTS: BOUMEDIENE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY DURING ONE OF HIS INNUMERABLE SPEECHES DURING  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ALGIER 01281 301615Z

CURRENT KIM IL SUNG VISIT TO FOCUS ON SPANISH SAHARA

DIRECTLY, FIRST TIME HAS HAS RECENTLY DONE SO.

4. HIS MAY 28 COMMENT: "WHEN ALGERIA DEMANDS THAT EVACUATION OF SPANISH COLONIALISM FORM REGIONS ON ITS FRONTIERS, IT IS EXPRESSING ITS RESOLUTELY ANTICOLONIALIST POLICY. THIS QUESTION INTERESTS OUR COUNTRY, FOR ON THE ONE HAND THE TERRITORY IS ON OUR FRONTIERS -- AND THIS CONSTITUTES A DANGER TO THE SECURITY OF OUR COUNTRY AND ITS REVOLUTION -- AND ON THE OTHER HAND IT (COLONIALISM) IS OPPOSED TO OUR DOCTRINE OF ANTICOLONIALIST BATTLE, WHATEVER THE NATURE OF THIS COLONIALISM AND WHEREVER IT

RAGES."

6. FRONT POLISARIO: ALGERIAN PRESS MAY 30 GAVE POLISARIO BIG BUILDUP. IT CITED:

A. AFP MADRID REPORT ON RALLYING OF 12 SPANISH SOLDIERS TO POLISARIO FOLLOWING PREVIOUS DEFECTION OF TWO OTHER PATROLS TOGETHER WITH 12 SPANISH SOLDIERS;

B. SPANISH PRESS REPORT THAT POLISARIO "MOST INFLUENTIAL INDEPENDANCE MOVEMENT";

C. SPANISH PRESS REPORT THAT POLISARIO RECOGNIZED BY ARAB LEAGUE AND OAU AND RECEIVING TANZANIAN SCHOLARSHIPS;

D. AFP LAS PALMAS DESPATCH QUOTING POLISARIO SPOKESMAN DISCUSSING LINKS BETWEEN "WESTERN SAHARA" AND CANARY ISLANDS AND CLAIMING THAT MOROCCO ARRESTED POLISARIO MEMBERS DURING UN MISSION VISIT.

7. COMMENT: BOUMEDIENE REMARKS AND PRESS BUILDUP SUPPORT VIEW THAT SPANISH CHANGE OF POLICY MAY HAVE INCREASED CHANCES OF SERIOUS ALGERIAN-MOROCCAN CONFRONTATION.

8. WE RECOGNIZE MOROCCAN MILITARY ADVANTAGES IN ANY ANSCHLUSS MOVE. MILITARY OBSERVERS HERE STILL DO NOT SEE ALGERIAN MILITARY ASSETS IN AREA ANYWHERE NEAR SUFFICIENT TO CAUSE MOROCCANS MUCH DIFFICULTY, EVEN WERE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ALGIER 01281 301615Z

ALGERIANS INCLINED TO ENTER INTO SUCH A DIRECT MILITARY CONFRONTATION, WHICH WE DOUBT.

9. REAL DANGER WOULD COME FROM ALGERIAN POTENTIAL FOR SUBVERSION AND HARASSMENT, NOT ONLY IN SPANISH SAHARA BUT AGAINST HASSAN REGIME ITSELF. CREATION AND PUMPING UP OF POLISARIO AS MAJOR LIBERATIONIST FORCE ILLUSTRATIVE OF ALGERIAN ABILITY TO DABBLE SUCCESSFULLY

IN SUCH EXERCISES. FURTHER, MOROCCO COULD EXPECT TROUBLE ALONG ITS FRONTIER WITH ALGERIA, LEGAL STATUS OF WHICH, OF COURSE, STILL FAR FROM SETTLED.

10. THESE VIEWS SUPPORT RABAT'S CASE STATED REFTEL OF DANGERS TO REGIONAL STABILITY AND RISKS FOR MOROCCAN REGIME SHOULD HASTY SPANISH WITHDRAWAL OCCASION MOROCCAN UNILATERAL ACTION.

11. WHAT TO DO? GIVEN ALGERIAN DETERMINATION TO BE "INTERESTED PARTY" AND POTENTIAL FOR CREATING DIFFICULTIES, ALGERIAN ICJ PRESENTATION AND VISIT OF UN MISSION HERE, SPANISH RECOGNITION OF ALGERIAN STATUS APPEARS TO US HERE TO REPRESENT RECOGNITION OF FACT OF LIFE RATHER THAN SPANISH OPTION, ESPECIALLY GIVEN PRESUMED SPANISH DESIRE TO GET OUT WITHOUT OFFENDING ANYONE.

12. FROM ALGIERS WE WOULD SIMPLY OBSERVE THAT IT APPEARS WE HAVE THREE MAIN OBJECTIVES IN CURRENT SITUATION:

A. PRESERVE STABILITY OF HASSAN REGIME IN MOROCCO;

B. GIVE ALGERIA AS LIMITED A ROLE AS POSSIBLE IN AREA;

C. ASSURE WE DO NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS NO-WIN ISSUE.

UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, IT APPEARS TO US THAT IMPLICATIONS OF FIRST TWO GOALS CONFLICT, AS EFFORTS TO RESTRICT ALGERIAN ROLE PROMISE TO INCREASE ALGERIAN ACTIVITY AGAINST MOROCCAN STABILITY. IF THIS INTERPRETATION ACCURATE, FOCUS ON THIRD GOAL WOULD APPEAR APPROPRIATE.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 ALGIER 01281 301615Z

LYNE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, COLONIALISM, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ALGIER01281  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750189-1070  
**From:** ALGIERS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975057/aaaaaftm.tel  
**Line Count:** 155  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 RABAT 2536  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 JUN 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALGERIANS TOUGHEN UP ON SPANISH SAHARA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MO, SS, SP, AG, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006